

Summary Protocol for Collection of PFAS Samples from NTN Wet-Deposition Collectors

OVERVIEW: Just a few changes to the standard NTN sample collection protocol are required to ensure that acceptable PFAS samples are obtained. These changes along with other important information are summarized below

1. **Tyvek lab coat:** Please wear the provided Tyvek lab coat in order to avoid contamination from clothing fibers and other potential contaminants during all steps of the process (i.e. when preparing the bagged-bucket for deployment, when retrieving and decanting the sample from the collector, in handling, weighing and packaging the sample for shipment).
 2. **Vinyl gloves and sample bag handling:** As per standard NTN protocol, please wear new vinyl gloves in performing each of the protocol steps. To the extent possible, avoid touching the inside of the bag when both placing/seating the bag in the bucket, and in decanting the sample. If the gloves touch a “dirty” surface, please swap out for new ones.
 3. **Fold and return sample bag:** Following pour off of the sample, carefully retrieve the sample bag from the bucket, and fold per provided instructions (*included*). Place the folded bag into a small Ziploc bag (4x15”) and return in the same box as the 1L sample bottle. THIS IS NOT REQUIRED WEEKLY, SEE ADDITIONAL NOTES SECTION: STEP E.
 4. **Lid seal pad:** Prior to starting collections for PFAS, swap out the existing bucket lid seal pad with the PFAS-compatible pad provided in the start-up kit. See the NADP website for instructions on how to change out a lid seal pad based on your collector type (*links are provided below*). Return your original lid seal pad in the large poly mailer included in your starter kit. Every 3 months, place a new 16 x 18” plastic bag over the lid seal pad (*instructions included*). Bags for this purpose are provided in the start-up kit.
 5. **Quality Assurance protocol:** Perform semi-annual collection of a field blank and a field spike using QC supplies that will be provided semi-annually along with detailed instructions. Two extra buckets will be provided to facilitate performing the QC without conflicting with standard collections.
 6. **PFAS-specific supplies** will be replenished semi-annually.
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Additional Notes:

- A. Store the Tyvek lab coat in a plastic bag between sample retrievals. Replace the Tyvek lab coat at approximately 3-month intervals (or sooner if clearly dirty). New Tyvek lab coats will be supplied with each set of semi-annual QC supplies.
- B. The standard NTN FORF is used as the Chain-of-Custody (CoC) for routine PFAS collections from NTN sites. Any PFAS specific information can be provided in the “REMARKS” of the NTN FORF.
- C. The standard 1L NTN poly bottle, cleaned and provided by NADP, is suitable for all PFAS collections. Take care to decant as much sample as possible into the bottle.
- D. Please use ONLY the WSLH-provided bucket sample bag for sample collections. ONLY these bags have been extensively QC'd for both NTN analytes and PFAS collections.
- E. Sites are no longer required to send back the folded sample collection bag each week, with the following exception:
 - a. On the week that QC procedures are performed, send back the folded sample collection bag from the routine weekly sample that was collected during that week. If your routine weekly sample is a dry sample, return the bag from the next wet sample that is collected. Do this semi-annually. This new process will result in a total of 2 returned sample bags from each site per year.
- F. Please contact the PFAS Research Team if you have any questions or are in need of supplies.

Shipping Address:

PFAS Research Center
Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene
465 Henry Mall,
Madison, WI 53706

Phone: 1-608-265-9193

Email: pfasresearch@slh.wisc.edu

Lid Seal Pad Change out Instructions on NADP website:

- 1. **NCON collector:** https://nadp.slh.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/NTN-2111_Lid_Seal_Changeout_NCON_v_2-0.pdf
- 2. **ACM collector:** https://nadp.slh.wisc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/NTN-2102_Lid_Seal_Changeout_ACM_v_2-0.pdf